

years and hundreds or even thousands of dollars out of their own pockets trying to clear their names because of identity theft often facilitated by obtaining the individual's Social Security number.

Concerns about identity theft are increasing dramatically. According to the Federal Trade Commission, identity theft is the number one consumer complaint—amounting to 39 percent of complaints received in 2004. In fact, my state, Florida, is sixth in the nation in the number of identity theft victims per 100,000 people.

Clearly, there is need for a comprehensive law to better protect the privacy of Social Security numbers and protect the American public from being victimized. Today, I re-introduce the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2005," which is similar to bipartisan legislation introduced during the last Congress. In the public and private sector, the bill would restrict the sale and public display of Social Security numbers, limit dissemination of Social Security numbers by credit reporting agencies, make it more difficult for businesses to deny services if a customer refuses to provide his or her Social Security number and establish civil and criminal penalties for violations.

Congress must act to protect the very number it requires each of us to obtain and use throughout our lifetime. Providing for uses of Social Security numbers that benefit the public while protecting these numbers from being used by criminals, or even terrorists, is a complex balancing act. This bill achieves that balance by ensuring Social Security numbers are exchanged only when necessary and protected from indiscriminant disclosure. I urge Members to co-sponsor this important legislation.

HONORING MATT KIEHL ON ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Matt Kiehl, a constituent who at the age of 17 has been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. Matt has been involved in scouting since the age of seven when he started as a Tiger Cub. For the last 10 years, he has worked toward this goal which culminated in his Eagle Scout project to construct a prayer path at the Shalom House in Montpelier, Virginia. He, along with about 25 volunteers, completed the project this past December 18.

Matt is an exceptional student at the Maggie Walker Governor's School. Next year, he will join the "We the People" Team. This nationwide competition is based on students' knowledge and understanding of the Constitution. He also finished second in the National Catholic Forensic League state competition this year and will compete at the national competition.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Kiehl family—his father, Mark; mother, Leslie; and his sisters Jennifer and Stephanie—in honoring and recognizing the remarkable achievements of Matt. I am confident we will hear great things from him in the future.

RECOGNIZING ANDRE SMITH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the accomplishments of a man who has made a strong commitment to protect and defend human dignity. On Saturday, May 7, the members of Oman Temple No. 72, of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, will gather at their 50th Annual Potentate's Ball, where they will honor their illustrious Potentate, Andre Smith.

Andre Smith was born in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, on August 8, 1965, the youngest and only son of Elworth and Vivian Smith. He attended Flint Public Schools, and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1983. He later enlisted in the United States Army, where he proudly served for 8½ years, attaining the rank of Sergeant E-5. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1992.

In addition to his tenure as Illustrious Potentate of Oman Temple 72, Mr. Smith is also a member and Senior Warden of John W. Stevenson Lodge No. 56, Saginaw Valley Consistory No. 71, and the Flint Roller Skating Association. As a member of these organizations, he has consistently been at the forefront of campaigns and projects designed to improve and beautify the city. In addition, Mr. Smith successfully balances his time as a community leader with his employment as an Administrative Security Tech at the Great Lakes Tech Center, and as a member of Grace Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I am appreciative of Andre Smith's contributions to the Flint community. His civic awareness has made our city a better place in which to live. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in congratulating him for his dedication and perseverance.

REGARDING THE DEATH OF PROVIDENCE POLICE DETECTIVE JAMES L. ALLEN

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to Mayor Cicilline, Chief Esserman, the entire Providence Police Department, the friends and the family of Detective James L. Allen, a 27-year veteran of the police force in Providence, Rhode Island who was tragically killed early Sunday morning inside his own police station. I want to honor this heroic man by sharing his story with fellow Members of Congress and the nation.

Detective Allen embodied the great courage and dedication of those who risk their lives in order to protect others. His was known by his colleagues as being exceptionally talented in remembering names, faces and dates—so much so that they endearingly referred to him as "Rainman" in the department. He was also known as an extremely hard worker who never sought the limelight for himself, despite the fact that he handled high-profile cases and

acted heroically on many occasions during his over two decade-long performance of duty. In 1987, Detective Allen ran through a burning tenement house and evacuated several people who were sleeping inside. In 1989, he received a "Chiefs Award" for an outstanding act in the performance of duty. On this past Saturday night, he was once again going above and beyond the call of duty by returning to the police station after enjoying dinner with his family in order to "pull out all the stops" in the investigation of a vicious crime which had occurred earlier in the day.

He was clearly very proud of following in the footsteps of his father, retired Providence Police Captain Lloyd Allen. Out of a force of 500 officers, Detective Allen was one of the 20 longest-serving. Sadly, he is the third Providence police officer killed on the job since 1994. Incidents such as this one remind us of the daily sacrifice and risk endured by members of our law enforcement communities, who deserve the utmost appreciation from all of us. Detective Allen leaves his wife, Marguerite, and two daughters, Jennifer, 15 and Caitlin, 14, behind. Although his life ended abruptly in great tragedy, his legacy of selflessness, kindness, and service to his community will continue on.

RECOGNIZING MR. DONNIE R. WHEELER OF VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES, FOR HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Donnie R. Wheeler, General Manager of the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in Virginia Beach, VA. Mr. Wheeler is an exceptional leader and public steward dedicated to the Nation's and Virginia's environment and public health. It is a great pleasure to congratulate Mr. Wheeler on becoming the first President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), formerly the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA). No one could be more deserving of this leadership position.

A graduate of Virginia Tech, Mr. Wheeler was employed by the Virginia State Water Control Board for seven years before joining HRSD in 1974. Mr. Wheeler's distinguished career with HRSD—a nationally recognized regional wastewater treatment utility, which serves 17 cities and counties covering 3,100 square miles of southeast Virginia—has spanned three decades. Under his management, HRSD has been honored with a host of awards from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is recognized as a state innovator for initiatives such as Virginia's first municipal water reuse project.

On May 2, 2005, the members of NACWA elected Mr. Wheeler to be the president of the Association stemming from his exemplary commitment and dedication to the clean-water community.

With Mr. Wheeler as President, NACWA will no doubt be the leading advocate for responsible national policies that advance clean

water and a healthy environment. Simply stated, when I hear the term "environmentalist", I think of public servants like Donnie first. This is because Donnie's contributions to his profession, his community, and to Virginia are numerous.

Mr. Wheeler is a founder of the Virginia Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies (VAMWA) and served as its president for six years. His career achievements have earned the respect of his colleagues at the local, state and national levels, resulting in awards from the Virginia Water Environment Association (VWEA) and Environment Virginia. Mr. Wheeler has also served as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Environmental Engineering at Old Dominion University.

Again, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Donnie on becoming President of NACWA. I am certain the Association will continue to flourish under his able leadership.

AGRICULTURAL TRADE

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I stand today in support of the U.S.-Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement and the benefits it will provide to hardworking American farmers. Currently, the U.S. market is already fairly open to agricultural products from Central America and the Dominican Republic, but U.S. farmers face a variety of tariffs and other barriers when exporting to the DR-CAFTA countries. This agreement will eliminate those barriers, reciprocate open market access, and put American farmers on a level playing field.

As the nation's top exporter of corn, with farm cash receipts of over \$3.7 billion, corn producers from the great state of Iowa, which I represent, would benefit from the FTA. Recent price strength in U.S. pork markets is directly related to increased U.S. pork exports. Mexico is a good example. DR-CAFTA countries are also important export market for Iowa soybean farmers, who are the top exporters of soybeans. Nationwide these exports already account for 14 percent, a total of 1.0 million metric tons or 58 million bushels. Finally, the Iowa beef industry would benefit from the FTA. In 2003, the U.S. found bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a Canadian cow causing us to have export challenges with Japan. The U.S. has lost valuable beef exports, and this FTA would help expand access and market potential.

This Agreement will provide U.S. farmers with unequalled access to a large market with growing incomes and growing demands for agricultural and food products. The elimination of tariffs will provide American farmers with preferences over producers in Canada, Europe, and other countries. This will help to restore lost U.S. market share and increase overall exports to the five DR-CAFTA countries.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support American farmers and to support this very important piece of legislation.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL
WRONIKOWSKI

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that these moving words delivered on April 2, 2005 by Brian Wronikowski at a memorial service for his father, Michael Wronikowski of Detroit, Michigan, who passed away on March 16, 2005, be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

First of all, my family and I would like to thank all of you for coming today. We appreciate everyone taking time out of their busy lives to celebrate the life of someone who was and always will be such an important part of ours. Everyone's thoughts, prayers and kind words have not gone unnoticed. Thanks again.

We would like to invite any and all of you to continue the celebration of Mike's life after mass. Stop in for a bite to eat. Stop in to say hello. All are welcome to stop by at Mike and Kathy's home. Just follow the caravan of people walking down Audubon after the service.

Joseph and Dorothy Wronikowski welcomed Michael John, their 3rd of 5 children into the world on September 3rd, 1946. He was born in the city of Detroit, where he lived all 58 of his years. Raised in the Catholic faith, he attended Guardian Angel Elementary School and graduated from De La Salle High School in 1964.

After graduation, he joined the Army Reserves, where he served as a security code specialist until 1972. It was also upon graduation that he began work as a printer, a career that would last over thirty years. In June of 1967, he met and began dating Kathleen McEvoy, a former classmate of his from Guardian Angels. Although they were in the same grade, they were never in the same classroom in any of their eight years. On May 10, 1968, a mere eleven months later, they were married.

Being the good Catholic young adults that they were, my parents got to work on starting their family. Nine and a half months after they were married, Anne Marie, their first child was born. Eleven months later, came John Michael. And so on and so on to the tune of eight children in nine and a half years. As the kids kept coming, and the bills kept rising, my father worked two jobs to provide for us and send us through Catholic schools. You see, public school was never an option for us kids in our parent's eyes. They were both brought up in Catholic households and a Catholic education was the only way to go.

My Dad became a printer back in the '60's because it meant a pay increase over his job in the mail room. But make no mistake, he took great pride in his craft. I can remember him bringing home picture after picture that he worked on. I think all of us kids had "The Tiger's Roar in '84" poster that he worked on hanging in our rooms at some point.

It was not all work for my Dad. He was a spectacular athlete in his younger years. He dabbled in a just about everything. He was a solid third baseman. As you heard, he was lucky enough to play in the nets in the storied Montreal Forum. He was also a very good golfer, and he was the best bowler I have ever seen.

As the years went on, working the long hours on the printing press took quite a toll on my dad's body. He developed degenerative disc disease, which resulted in four separate

back surgeries. He lived every day in constant pain, but you would never know it, because he would never show it. His desire to live and be active outweighed his desire to live in comfort.

As the surgeries mounted, he was forced to give up all of his hobbies that he loved for so long. Instead of feeling sorry for himself and packing it in, he moved on to other hobbies that I am sure were no better for his back than his sports were. He redid almost the whole inside of my parent's house. You cannot step foot inside a room there that doesn't have his fingerprints all over it. My mom even turned him on to the wonderful world of gardening. Pulling weeds, planting bulbs—all sorts of fun stuff. But it wasn't the job that he was doing that was important to him; instead, it was how he did it. He was a perfectionist at heart. And it didn't matter if he was working the presses or vacuuming our pool, the job was not done until it was perfect.

My Dad stopped working in 2000. And though we had some stressful times over the last few years, anybody that knew him knows that his last few years were his happiest. His kids were all grown up. He was blessed with five beautiful grandchildren. And he got to enjoy more time with my Mom than any other time in their marriage. Sure, they had their hard times like any other couple. But my parents were married 36 years. Neither one ever strayed. Through thick and through thin, their love never wavered.

Everyone has different things that will always stick with them. Different memories. Different "Dadisms". Here are a few. My Dad was a very good listener. Sometimes he offered his opinions, but more times than not he just wanted to be there for his kids. His silent confidence is already missed. My dad was a huge hockey fan. Many a Saturday night was spent in our younger years with the TV tuned in to Hockey Night in Canada. And it didn't really feel like the Wings had won the Cup until we were able to get Dad on the phone and share our excitement. My Dad was always very affectionate with both his kids and his grandkids. Every time someone was leaving our parents to go back home, wherever home may be, you knew it was time for a kiss on both cheeks from Dad. And a giant bear hug. Then he would stand at the door and wave goodbye, not moving until the car was out of sight. My Dad was always there for all of us. Whether someone needed a ride, a couple extra bucks or just a visit to say hi, you could always count on him. I will be honest with you now—my sisters gave my Dad some of the ugliest gifts I have ever seen. The hats. The shirts. Not so good. Didn't matter though. If the card attached said Love, one of his kids or grandkids, that gift automatically became his favorite article of clothing. And he wouldn't take it off. One of our neighbors gave us a card that read "I will personally miss Mike because of the man I knew him to be—a helpful, caring, involved and thoughtful neighbor." Any time we were talking to my Dad on the phone, each call would end the same way. "I love you. Okay, bye." That's my Dad.

I will have many long lasting memories of my Dad. But some will stick around more than others. I think like just about every other five or six year old kid, I thought of my Dad as the strongest man on Earth, some type of super hero almost. He had these huge, Popeye like forearms that he got from the long hours working on the press. As years went on, and I looked at my Dad as more of a human being than a super hero, my thoughts of his strength faded away. The last few years, I watched him and marveled. Not because of his arm strength, but more because of his inner strength. He persevered through his life in a way that I cannot do